

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested for claims 25-48.

Claims 30 and 34-44 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 30, 34, 36, and 41 have been rewritten in independent form, which is submitted to place all of claims 30 and 34-44 in condition for allowance.

The drawings were objected to. The specification has been amended to change reference numeral 35 at Page 11, line 24, to reference numeral 15, which conforms with the drawings. No drawing change is believed to be necessary.

Claim 47 was objected to. Claim 47 has been amended to address the grounds for objection and withdrawal of the objection is cordially urged.

Claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 32 has been amended to depend from claim 29, which is submitted to overcome the grounds for rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is cordially urged.

Claims 25-29, 31-33 and 45-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,631,938 to *Gawlick*. Claim 25, from which claims 26-29, 31-33, and 45-48 depend, as amended, defines an electronic detonator comprising an ignition charge, an active battery unit for emitting igniter current for initiating the ignition charge, and an electronic circuit for controlling the emission of igniter current, the battery unit being movable in the detonator between a resting position and an activated position, in which the battery unit is connected for emitting the igniter current in a controlled way, and battery activating means being provided, in response to external activation, for

pyrotechnically causing the battery unit to move from the resting position to the activated position, wherein the battery unit has the shape of a plunger or piston and is arranged in a corresponding bore in the detonator, the bore being arranged in a tubular element which is dimensionally stable and resistant to mechanical action and which has a longitudinal extension essentially corresponding to a longitudinal extension of the detonator, the battery unit being movable in the bore from its resting position to its activated position against the action of a frictional force.

Gawlick does not disclose or suggest the claimed features or combination of features. For example, claim 25 defines a combination of features including an active battery unit (i.e., as explained at Page 2, lines 21-22, consisting of one or more active cells). The battery 7 in *Gawlick* is an activatable battery unit that is only active after a primer charge 5 conducts potassium hydroxide solution from a container 6 into the battery.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 25 and the claims dependent therefrom, claims 26-29, 31-33, and 45-48, are not anticipated by *Gawlick*.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims, claims 25-48, are in condition for allowance. Allowance is cordially urged.

Attorney's Docket No. 003300-912
Application No. 10/070,366
Page 13

If the Examiner should be of the opinion that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issue, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: November 12, 2003

By:



Harold R. Brown III
Registration No. 36,341

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620